

June 2006

Volume 2, Issue 6

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Town Holiday

July 4

Independence Day

Upcoming Meetings

7/5 Board of Aldermen

7/10 Planning Commission

7/17 Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

7/18 Board of Aldermen

7/21 Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee

7/25 Board of Aldermen Work Session

7/27 Board of Adjustment

*For a complete calendar of events, visit the News section of the Town's website.*

# CITIZEN UPDATE

## GARNER

*A Great Place to Be*



**Town of Garner's Independence Day Celebration**  
**Monday, July 3**  
**Lake Benson Park at 921 Buffaloe Road, Garner**  
**Gates Open: 5:00 pm**

Featuring again this year an evening of family fun, food and entertainment. You may bring your own picnic with lawn chairs and blankets or enjoy food prepared by Garner area non-profit organizations. See event rules listed below.

**5:00 - 7:00 pm**

**Children's Game Area with Inflatables and Family Fun &**

**Special Performances by the North Carolina 440th Army National Guard Band**

**8:30 - 9:30 pm**

**North Carolina Symphony Concert Performance with**



**Fireworks Display Beginning Approximately at 9:30 pm**

**Event Rules:** Please follow these important event rules. Alcoholic beverages, pets, glass containers, fireworks including sparklers, umbrellas, gas and charcoal grills are not permitted in the park.



## Senior Center Fitness Annex

Garner citizens, elected officials and Town staff gathered at the Garner Senior Center at 205 East Garner Road on June 4 for the Grand Opening and Open House for the new Fitness Annex. This 7000 square foot addition provides space for fitness classes, special events, athletics events, dressing rooms and storage. A half court gymnasium offers opportunities for senior games sanctioned sports such as badminton and basketball. The fitness area includes treadmills, weights, and exercise bikes.

Garner is one of the leaders in our area in offering services to the growing population of senior adults. The original center, build in 1990, has become overcrowded as usage of the facility continues to increase. Like other parts of North Carolina, Garner is seeing tremendous growth in the senior population, many of whom choose to be active and seek recreational and social programs with their peers.

The fitness annex is also available to non-senior citizens (age 18 years and older) in the evenings from 5:00 to 8:00 PM. Monthly fees for non-senior usage are \$10 for residents and \$12 for non-residents. For additional information, contact the senior center at 779-0122.



## 2006-07 Budget Approved

The Board of Aldermen completed budget deliberations on June 20 and adopted a total budget for fiscal year 2006-07 of \$20,005,586. Budget approval came after cuts were made to the proposed budget which was presented to the Board in early May. Changes which made the reductions possible included removal of two vehicles and a K-9 transport unit from the Police Department, deleting the rifle program in the Police Department, reducing agency funding, deleting the Transportation Update study and the US 70 East Enhancement project and increasing revenue projections which include some fee increases. The approved budget maintains the same level of Town services. Key components include a 3% cost of living adjustment for employees effective July 1, 2006, an additional .5% contribution to the employee's 401K account for non-police personnel, additional staff to operate expanded auditorium and senior center, an additional School Resource Officer, an additional Building Inspector, and funding of additional debt incurred for construction of Centennial Park, renovation of 120 E. Main Street, expanded auditorium, expanded senior center and additional water and sewer capacity.

The Board, concerned about its citizens, agreed to a \$.015 tax increase rather than the \$.04 increase which was a part of the proposed budget and decided against the implementation of a solid waste fee.

## Visit with the Mayor - July 6

The next 'Visit with the Mayor' is coming up on July 6. Since January, Mayor Williams has set aside the first Thursday of each month as open office time for citizens to stop by for discussion about any questions or concerns. No appointment is necessary.

## Board Recognizes Youth

The Board of Aldermen recently recognized Alex Lambert, a 12 year old Garner resident, for his role in saving another child's life while on a Memorial Day vacation in the North Carolina mountains.

## Police Receive Grant

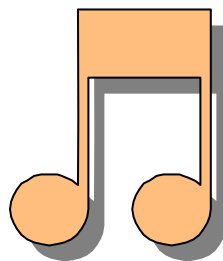
The Garner Police Department recently received a grant from the Governor's Highway Safety Program for the purchase of equipment for DWI checkpoints. Almost \$20,000 in federal grant monies were awarded with no requirement for Town matching.

## Ladies Nights Planned Downtown

The Garner Revitalization Association is making plans to offer "Ladies Night Out" at the Sunnyside Too. These quarterly events would bring in beauty professionals who cater to women's needs such as hair styling, nails, facials, spa services and massage. Vendors would offer items such as handmade jewelry, beauty products, yoga instruction, and photography.

Each "Ladies Night Out" would feature a main presenter such as an interior decorator, to give advice and show different techniques while the women are being pampered and enjoy shopping. There will also be drink and dinner specials.

If you know someone who would like to showcase their products or be a vendor or presenter please contact John Mejaski at 773-4456 or [jmejaski@ci.garner.nc.us](mailto:jmejaski@ci.garner.nc.us)



## Downtown Concerts

The summer concert series organized by the Garner Revitalization Association continues with the next concert scheduled for July 20. The Catalinas, well known in this area for their beach music, will be the featured band. The Catalinas have been associated with summertime since 1975 when the group released the hit record "Summertime's Calling Me". Other concerts are scheduled for August 17 and September 14. Concerts are held downtown and a portion of Main Street is closed during the events.



## Education News

### New Principal Named at High School

Isaac "Michael" Holton Jr. has been named by the Wake County School Board as the new principal at Garner Magnet High School to replace the retiring Cathy Johnson in the fall. Mr. Holton is currently the principal at East Garner Magnet Middle School where he has served since 2003. He previously served as assistant principal at Enloe Magnet High School in Raleigh.

### Retiring Educators Honored

Garner Educational Foundation recently honored Garner area teachers who retired at the end of the 2005-06 school year. A dinner at Logan's Roadhouse on June 7 honored the retirees. Town Manager Mary Lou Todd, Mayor Ronnie Williams, Wake County Area Superintendent Lloyd Gardner, and Chamber of Commerce President Neal Padgett joined Ralph Smith, Ken Marshburn, Marjorie Barefoot from GEF in recognizing the retirees. The educators were presented certificates of appreciation and crystal bowls. Honorees are Takiko Waters - 26 years, Colleen O'Neal - 16 years, Donna Stevens - 31 years, Sue Combs - 10.5 years, Charles Evans - 14 years, Barbara Stewart - 30 years, Adrienne Talbot - 16 years, Jennifer Raynor - 30 years, Alice Ussery - 11 years, Gail LeBlanc - 20 years, Nancy Perry - 23.5 years, and Catherine Johnson - 33 years.

### Teacher Assistant Honored

Edie Tyndall of Aversboro Road Elementary School was honored recently as Teacher Assistant of the Year for Wake County Public Schools. Ms. Tyndall has been at Aversboro for 19 years and is currently working with second graders.



### 350 Graduate

On June 10, Garner Magnet High School graduated 350 seniors in ceremonies at Reynolds Coliseum. The Class of 2006 received over \$800,000 in scholarships., including National Merit, the Superintendent's Leadership Scholarship, NC Teaching Fellows, as well as scholarships provided by local organizations such as the Garner Educational Foundation, the Lions Club, the Civitan Club, and the Optimist Club. There were 69 distinguished honor graduates and 47 honor graduates.

## Economic Development

The Board of Aldermen approved annexation of Rosemoor Place subdivision following a public hearing at its June 20 meeting. This 46.68 tract of land is located on the south side of Buffalo Road just off of Aversboro Road. With homes having 3100 square feet minimums, this will be Garner's most upscale subdivision to date.

Annexation of approximately 12 acres located on Management Way just off US 70 East was approved following a public hearing at the Board of Aldermen's June 20 meeting.

Approval was given by the Board of Aldermen at its June 20 meeting for a special use permit to allow construction of an office building to be located at 905 Vandora Springs Road. The existing building (formerly occupied by Garner TV & Appliance) will be demolished and replaced with a one story, 6900 square foot building. Crescent Bank and offices will occupy the new building.

Annexation of approximately 28 acres located on Jones Sausage Road was approved at the June 20 Board of Aldermen meeting. This is the future site of East Garner Elementary School.

Magpie's Nest opened recently at Timber Crossing Shopping Center offering day care and after school care.

The Board of Aldermen will hold a public hearing at the July 5 meeting for a special use permit for Southerby Bluffs. The proposed site for 55 town homes is located south of Heather Park Apartments and west of Southview subdivision.

La Zacatecana is now open in its renovated and expanded location on Village Court just off Aversboro Road. La Zacatecana is a Mexican food grocery and restaurant.

Site plans were approved June 5 for two warehouse and distribution facilities. Johnstone Supply is located on Junction Boulevard between Tryon Road and Garner Station Boulevard and Sigma Electric is located at the intersection of Hein Drive and Raynor Road.